



# CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

## Minutes of the February 4, 2008 Meeting



**Commissioners Present:** Michelle Castro, Martin David, Chair; Debi Davis; Marwan Fawal; Susan Migliore; Al Silva, Vice Chair; and P.J. Vaswani

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Staff Liaison:** Pam Morrison, Staff Liaison

**Visitors:** Steve Little and Paul McElherne, Santa Clara Ballet; Jim Narveson and Maxine Lukins, Santa Clara Players; Sharon Kaye, Mission City Opera; Preston Metcalf and Ester Fernandez, Triton Museum of Art

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### **MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION** – None.

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair David.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Approval of the December 3, 2007 minutes was deferred to the next meeting.
3. **Correspondence & Announcements:** Staff reviewed the correspondence received by the Commission, including the Winter 2008 Americans for the Arts ArtsLink newsletter.
  - a. The 2008 schedule for new funding application cycle was reviewed. Letters inviting organizations to apply will go out in February 2008, with applications due March 25, 2008. Organizations will be invited to present their applications at the April 7, 2008 Commission meeting, and the Commission will make funding recommendations for Council's considerations at the May 5, 2008 meeting. Cultural organizations will be requested to keep their budgets flat again this year if possible.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **Santa Clara Chorale.** At the Chorale's request, this item was deferred to the March meeting, as the Chorale representative was unable to attend.
  - b. **Santa Clara Ballet.** Steve Little and Paul McElherne, representing Santa Clara Ballet, presented information on the recent successful performances of "The Nutcracker Ballet." Commissioner Silva made a motion to approve the previously budgeted \$13,500 payment to the Ballet and to request updated financial information. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Migliore and was unanimously passed. [Note – the requested information is provided annually by the Ballet in their funding application; a separate report is unnecessary.]

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- c. **Santa Clara Players.** Jim Narveson and Maxine Lukins, representing Santa Clara Players, presented a funding request for the Santa Clara Players' production of "Waiting for Godot," which was budgeted in the 2007-08 fiscal year. Commissioner Castro moved to release payment of \$1,500 to the Players; Commissioner Fawal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- d. **Mission City Opera.** Sharon Kaye with Mission City Opera presented information from the recent production of "Amahl and the Night Visitors," which was budgeted in the 2007-08 fiscal year. Commissioner Fawal moved to release final payment of \$1,150 to Mission City Opera; Commissioner Silva seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- e. **Triton Museum of Art – Report of Activities.** Ester Fernandez, Curator of Education, and Preston Metcalf, Manager of External Affairs/Associate Curator, gave an update on the Triton Museum of Art activities, including information about two grants recently awarded to the Museum. One of the grants will enable the Museum to do a large marketing outreach, and the other will provide a makeover and update of the Museum's website. A recent artists' reception at the Museum had over 800 attendees, Family Day participation has increased approximately 20%, and the Museum served over 1100 artists last year. The Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Mr. Metcalf and Ms. Fernandez for their presentation.
- f. **Concerts in the Park 2008.** Commissioner Davis presented her proposed lineup of bands for the 2008 summer concerts. Commissioner Castro moved to accept the slate of performers with thanks for Commissioners Davis' hard work; Commissioner Migliore seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### 5. Unfinished Business

- a. **"Art in the Air" Banner Display 2008 – Update.** Staff informed the Commission that the blank banners used in the past were no longer available, and there were some difficulties obtaining a comparable product. Artists have been notified of the delay, and if necessary they would be given additional time to paint their banners.
- b. **"All Fired Up" Sculpture Exhibition.**
  - 1) Status of DVD/Channel 15 Airing of Exhibition. Copies of the sculpture show DVD were mailed to all of the artists. Commissioners were also provided with a copy. The DVD has been airing on Channel 15 and is available for view on the City's website via a link on the sculpture show page. The link will remain active through the duration of the show.
  - 2) Recap of Special Tour. Commissioner Castro noted that the tour went very well. There were six students and two teachers from the California School for the Blind. Ester Fernandez from the Triton Museum of Art led the tour, and Ketra Oberlander, a vision-impaired local artist, assisted Ester. Two of the exhibiting artists were present to describe their sculptures to the students. The Santa Clara Weekly newspaper covered the event in their January 2, 2008 issue.
- c. **Street Dance 2008 Update.** No update this month.
- d. **Suggestions to Improve Commission Visibility/Branding.** The suggested wording/graphic proposed at the December meeting ("with the support of the Santa Clara Cultural Advisory Commission") will be provided to all funded groups beginning with the 2008-09 funding cycle.

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6. **Commissioner Reports.** Commissioners reported on art activities of general interest.
7. **Public Presentations.** None.
8. **Adjournment.** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 3, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Castro  
Recording Secretary